

SITUATION REPORT NO. 10
INCIDENT NO. 2001- 005
DATE: April 13, 2001 TIME: 3:00 p.m.

TO: Governor John Hoeven
State Capitol
Bismarck, N.D. 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Spring Flooding.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: No change from the previous reports.
3. DAMAGES: An April 13 flood statement, issued by the Grand Forks National Weather Service (NWS), reflects the fact that precipitation amounts during a recent storm were less than anticipated. The latest forecast indicates the river at Wahpeton will rise to 19 to 20 feet late next week, one-half foot lower than earlier projections. The Flood of Record level of 19.42 feet was set in 1997. The river at Wahpeton measured 16.2 feet this morning, an increase of 0.45 feet within the last 24 hours.

The NWS also lowered its Red River crest predictions for gauges downstream from Wahpeton. The river at Fargo is expected to crest at 37 to 37.5 feet on April 17-18. The river measured 36.36 feet this morning, an increase of 1.25 feet within the last 24 hours. At Grand Forks the river is expected to crest at 46 to 47 feet on April 17-18. The river measured 44.77 feet this morning, a decrease of 0.03 feet within the last 24 hours. At Drayton the river is expected to crest at 41 to 42 feet on April 20-21. The river measured 38.63 feet this morning, an increase of 0.99 feet within the last 24 hours. At Pembina the river is expected to crest at 49.5 to 50 feet on April 22-23. The river measured 44.74 feet, an increase of 0.71 feet within the last 24 hours.

The NWS canceled flood warnings for Enderlin on the Maple River, the Pembina River at Neche, and the Goose River at Hillsboro. River levels have fallen below flood stage at these locations.

Floodwaters have forced the N.D. Department of Transportation to close N.D. Highway 200, from Hurdsfield to Junction 52, and N.D. Highway 66, east of Drayton to the Red River. The department also reported high water on N.D. Highway 15 south of Anamoose; traffic is being maintained at this location.

In Cass County, roads have been closed in 11 places, and the city of Fargo has closed nine roads. The golf course at Oxbow is under water.

In eastern Traill County, eight rural residences along the Red River have been sandbagged. The Neilsville Bridge remains closed due to high water. Crews removed a nearby ice and debris jam.

The Grand Forks County Highway Department closed County Road 7 due to rising floodwaters.

In Walsh County, Red River floodwaters have isolated approximately 22 farmsteads, which are only accessible by boat. The county continues to close roads east of the I-29. Approximately 26 miles of county roads and 23 miles of township roads have been closed.

In Towner County, there are approximately 20 sites where roads have caved in around culverts.

The Dickey County Highway Department reported washed out culverts and water overtopping township roads.

A Divide County homeowner reported a collapsed septic system and basement damage due to high water tables.

High water tables, along with frozen culverts and spring runoff, have caused damages to several county and township roads in Benson County. The city of Warwick reported that city streets have been closed due to severe saturation.

In McLean County, several roads have experienced erosion, washouts and other damages due to water running onto and over roads. Roads are being signed, flagged and the possibility of road closure exists.

4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: No change from previous reports.

STATE: No change from previous reports.

FEDERAL: No change from previous reports.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: The American Red Cross assigned a disaster number, DR-655-ND, April 2001 Floods. Local chapters are receiving national support for their relief efforts in the Red River Valley. The Red Cross opened four shelters; two remain open. On April 12, there were a total of 33 paid and volunteer staff on duty. Twenty-nine are local volunteers or paid staff and four are from other jurisdictions. One fixed feeding site has been established and five mobile units are feeding flood fighters and citizens. On April 12, 975 meals and snacks were served, bringing the total to 2,568.

The Salvation Army, in partnership with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), has been providing meals for flood fight volunteers. UMCOR contributed funding to FirstLink of Fargo for its volunteer coordination efforts.

Lutheran Disaster Response is providing counseling services throughout the state. A toll-free number, (800) 950-2901, has been established for Red River Valley residents.

In Cass County, the U.S. Humane Society is assisting with the care of displaced animals.

Students from area high schools, colleges and universities are assisting in sandbagging efforts.

6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The city of Fargo has increased the height of the dikes built by the USACE to 39 feet based on previous forecasts calling for higher crest. Levee construction is 90 percent complete. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is also assisting the city of Fargo in constructing a temporary dike along 64th Avenue South. Cass County Social Services has been conducting daily assessments of cities within the county. Cass County Sheriff's Reserve will begin extra patrol efforts along Cass County Road 81 south of Fargo. Cass County Highway Department has committed funds, equipment hours and extensive personnel hours on flood fight efforts and dike projects north of West Fargo and south of Fargo. The city of Reiles Acres has initiated sandbagging efforts. Work continues on temporary diking projects south of Fargo along Cass County Road 81 and near 88th Avenue South. Fargo Cass Public Health and Cass County Emergency Management issued a press release regarding potential well water contamination due to floodwaters. The Stockman's Subdivision has requested sand for sandbagging efforts and assistance in placing gravel on Cass County Road 31 at 52nd Avenue North.

The USACE delivered 200 rolls of 20 feet by 100 feet poly-plastic to Fargo.

The ND National Guard currently has 114 members on state active duty.

Emergency levee construction in the city of Grand Forks is 38 percent complete, according to the USACE. Top of levee will be 52 feet. Grand Forks is reviewing their evacuation plans and recommending residents plug their basement level drains and have plans in place to relocate basement items. The Community Resource Office is going door-to-door to alert all homeowners who will be on the wet side of the emergency dike alignment.

Officials for Walsh County and Pierce County have issued emergency declarations.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: No additional requests have been received.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: The Governor's Office, the Adjutant General, DEM, State Water Commission, N.D. DOT, Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Geological Survey, USACE and National Guard officials have been on-site in several areas.
9. OTHER: Appropriate state and local emergency operations plans have been implemented.

Situation Reports published by North Dakota Emergency Management are posted on the Division's Internet home page. The address is <http://www.state.nd.us/dem>.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director